

American-made goods. One part of my bill would require that all Federal departments and agencies submit annual reports on their purchases. The amendment that I am offering today is based on that provision in my bill.

The Buy American Act requires that the Federal Government support domestic businesses and domestic workers by buying American-made goods. I am pleased to note that the underlying bill includes language that states that none of the funds appropriated to the Department of Homeland Security may be used in contravention of the applicable provisions of the Buy American Act.

It only makes sense that Federal departments and agencies be required to report to Congress on their compliance with Federal law and with congressional intent regarding this important matter.

The American people deserve to know how their tax dollars are being spent, and to what extent these dollars are being used to support foreign jobs. I look forward to reviewing the fiscal year 2004 versions of these reports, and I am pleased that the managers have worked with me to extend the requirement for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2005. I will continue my efforts to ensure that this simple reporting requirement is made permanent for all Federal departments and agencies.

Again, I thank the chairman and ranking member of the subcommittee for agreeing to accept my amendment, and I yield the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 3620

#### CONTRACTS

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I ask the Senator, does the amendment apply to any existing contract at the Department of Homeland Security?

Mr. LEVIN. No, the amendment would only apply to new contracts signed after the date of enactment.

Mr. ALLEN. I thank the Senator. Does that mean that the Senator's amendment will not prohibit any task order, change order or extension issued in connection with an existing contract awarded prior to the date of enactment?

Mr. LEVIN. The Senator is correct. The intent of the amendment is to only capture new contracts.

Mr. ALLEN. I thank the Senator. So this amendment will not impact task orders issued under the US VISIT contract awarded to Accenture and the Smart Border Alliance?

Mr. LEVIN. The Senator is correct, the amendment is not intended to impact that contract or any task orders issued under the US VISIT contract.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. COCHRAN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum, unless the manager has more.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I do not know of any other Senator who is

planning to speak or offer an amendment at this time, so I think it is appropriate to put in a quorum call, unless we go to morning business.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent we go now to morning business.

Mr. COCHRAN. We have no objection to going into morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate will now proceed to a period for morning business.

#### JOHN KERRY'S HEALTH CARE PLAN

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I would like to speak briefly on another matter. It came to my attention that the President, today, spoke in Muskegon, MI, about health care. The President derided JOHN KERRY's plan for reforming health care as a bureaucratic nightmare and contended it would cost \$1.5 trillion.

I want to mention for the record, when this President became President we were spending \$1.3 trillion on health care. Now we are spending \$1.8 trillion on health care. Do you hear me? That is a half a trillion dollars. That is a half-trillion-dollar increase that Americans are now spending on health care. What do we have to show for results? We have to show, as a result, that an average family would have to pay \$10,000 for a family policy for comprehensive health care.

The results will show we have had the greatest decline in coverage of insurance for American workers during the last 3 years in the history of our health insurance debate. Drug prices are skyrocketing right up through the roof. Ask any senior citizen about the cost increase in prescription drugs. At the same time, you will find some of the greatest profits in the history of the drug companies and the HMOs.

I suggest that the tactics of fear and smear no longer be used when it comes to health care debates. Let us get rid of fear and smear. The facts do not add up to the recommendations and the suggestions we heard this afternoon. We know health insurance coverage is a crisis in this country in terms of cost and the increased numbers of uninsured and that prices are going up through the roof. Yet this administration absolutely opposed any opportunity for negotiated prices in terms of prescription drugs in the Medicare legislation last year.

Distortion and misrepresentation is a great concern to me. We have seen this administration distort and misrepresent intelligence about getting us into Iraq. We have seen them distort and misrepresent intelligence when they talk about our economy. It has been true with regard to education and leaving 4.5 million children out of the No Child Left Behind Program.

As I have said at other times, when this Nation made a commitment that

we were going to cover Medicare, we covered all of our seniors. When we said we were going to cover voting rights, we covered all of our Americans who should have been eligible for voting rights. When we said we were going to cover all children in this country—and 4.5 million of them being left out and behind—I compared it to the fact that when President Kennedy said we were going to the Moon, Congress gave us half the money to get us up to \$150 million and not do anything else but get our astronauts to the Moon and not bring them home. Those are the facts.

That is why these representations and debate in terms of health care, in terms of education, in terms of our economy, and in terms of Iraq—this is an administration that has failed in terms of its responsibilities. It is misleading the American people on issue after issue. That is what this debate is about. We will have a chance to see its outcome on election day.

I yield the floor.

#### HONORING DR. CATHERINE SNELSON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I today congratulate Dr. Catherine Snelson, assistant professor of geoscience at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for receiving the 2003 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, PECASE.

This award is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. Government on young scientists at the outset of their careers. In addition, Cathy has also received the Early Career Scientist and Engineer Award from the National Nuclear Security Administration's Office of Defense Programs.

I commend Dr. Snelson for her hard work and commitment to academic excellence in the public interest.

Dr. Snelson received her B.S. from California State University at Hayward in 1995, and her M.S. and her Ph.D. in geophysics from the University of Texas at El Paso. While completing these degrees, she performed fieldwork in the western United States, Ireland, and central Europe.

Since joining the faculty of UNLV as an assistant professor in January 2002, Dr. Snelson has continued to do important research that will protect the people of Nevada. Specifically she has identified areas that would be most affected by seismic events occurring in and around the Las Vegas Valley, and she has been involved in setting up motion recording stations to monitor earthquakes throughout the valley.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Catherine Snelson for her academic excellence, and in wishing her well in her promising career as a geoscientist.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the